

Programme Specification

MSc in Accounting and Financial Management

For students entering in September 2018

PFTZACFIMGHM

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	12 months
Accreditation	CIMA
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide a thorough postgraduate education in accounting and finance for graduates who wish to understand how businesses use financial information for decision making purposes and how the results of those decisions are communicated and evaluated in an international and institutional context. The compulsory modules provide an analytical and integrated study of accounting and finance combining a conceptual and theoretical approach with an emphasis on application to relevant practical problem-solving scenarios. Students will learn to evaluate alternative theories and methodologies and to make judgments on their applicability to complex issues where there is incomplete information. As a result students will enhance their employability in their related first-degree discipline or in any general business management role. The programme will also add to students' employability in the more specialised accounting or finance function of a business, or in an accounting and finance institution. The programme will also serve as a basis for further academic study in the discipline.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MMM001	International Strategic Management	20	7

MMM040	Management Decision-Making and Performance Evaluation	20	7
MMM041	Business Finance	20	7
MMM054	Cases in Financial Management & Control	20	7
MMM062	International Financial Reporting 1	20	7
MMM063	International Financial Reporting 2	20	7
ACM001	Corporate Governance and Ethics	20	7
MMM070	Study and Research Skills	0	7

Compulsory text:

Students must choose option modules so as to complete a total of 180 credits. This will include either a project or dissertation option.

A complete list of option modules is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant Programme Handbook. There is no guarantee that in any one year all modules will be available. New option modules may also be added.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

This programme is only available on a full-time basis.

Additional costs of the programme

There are no textbooks which you must buy and students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of textbooks or other resources with the module convenor before purchasing. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Business School Academic Resource Centre.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically. Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

There are currently no opportunities to study abroad or to undertake a placement.

Teaching and learning delivery:

Teaching is organised in modules. The delivery of material varies among the modules, especially in the proportion of time allocated to lectures, classes and seminars. All modules involve coursework, which takes a variety of forms reflecting the aims of the module. Final assessment of the modules normally includes an examination and coursework. However, there are exceptions, with some modules based only on coursework. A project or dissertation supervisor is appointed for each student.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is 292 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

The programme has accreditation of Chartered Institute of Management Accounting (CIMA) which provides for exemptions from four professional exams BA1 - BA4

Assessment

Assessment: Exams, applied projects, coursework as well as individual and group assignments

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

N/A

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.*

In addition, for all classifications for the award of Masters Degree, MMM049 Accounting and Finance Project is a module of special significance. Therefore, no mark below 40 is permitted for this module.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.*

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.*

*The provision to permit a candidate to be passed overall with a profile containing marks below 40 is made subject to the condition that there is evidence that the candidate applied his or herself to the work of those modules with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.